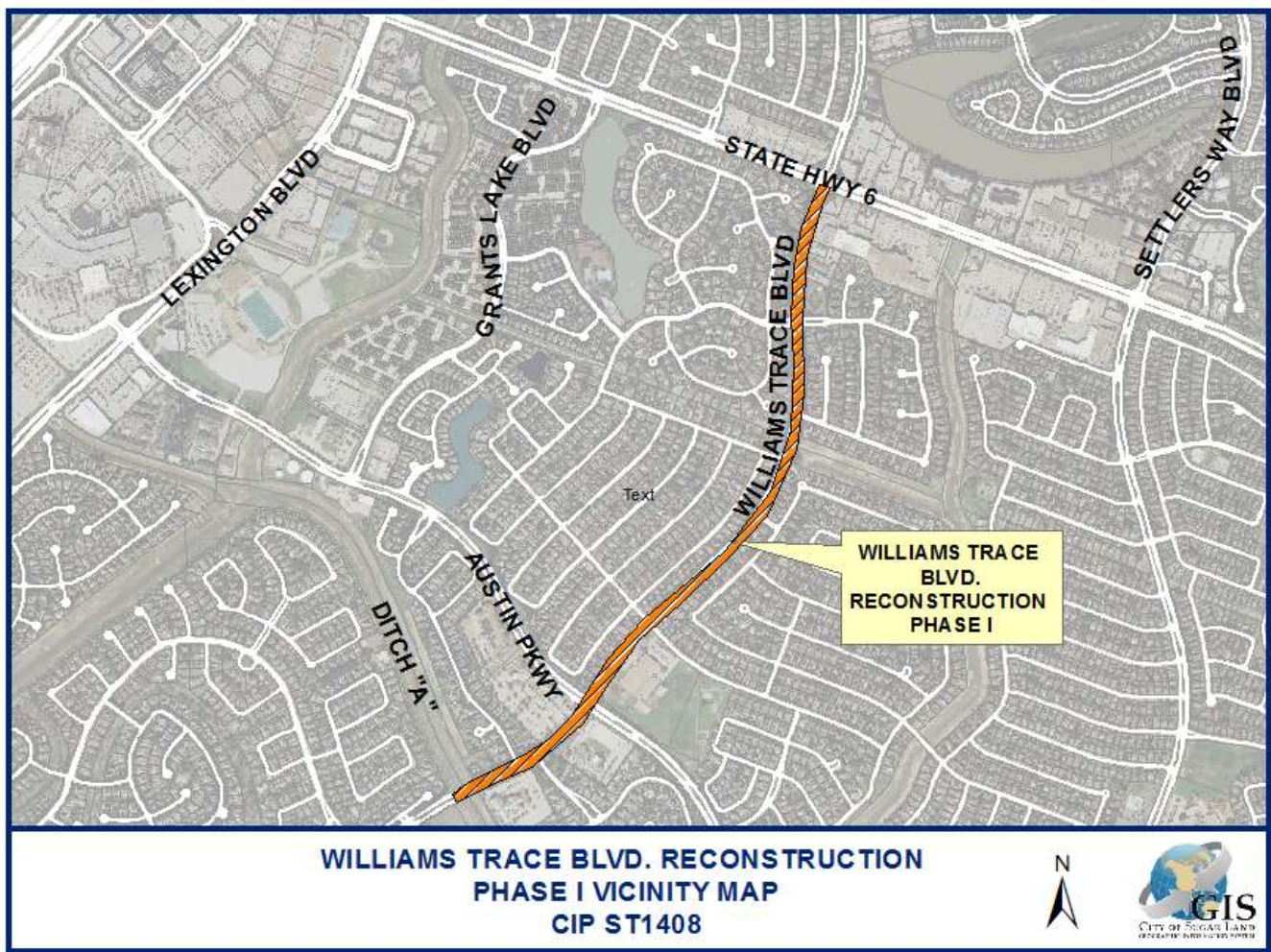




CITY OF SUGAR LAND
Environmental & Neighborhood Services

Williams Trace Reconstruction Phase I Update October 2016



Final engineering design for the reconstruction of Williams Trace Boulevard from Austin Parkway Boulevard to State Highway 6 is complete. The scope of the project includes full replacement of the roadway, the existing water main will be replaced the full length of the project due to age and material type. The existing traffic signals at Austin Parkway will be upgraded to ornamental poles and hardware. An additional parallel storm sewer will be constructed along the project corridor to correct drainage deficiencies as noted in a prior drainage analysis. Additionally a 10-ft sidepath will be constructed along Williams Trace from Austin Parkway to State Highway 6. During a workshop in June 2015, City Council agreed to pursue the design of Phase I including the following components:

- Improve drainage capacity with additional inlets and parallel storm sewer.
- Maintain a four-lane divided roadway with lane widths narrowed to 11 feet.
- Construct the 10 foot side path on the east side.
- Maintain shading to the new sidepath location.
- Narrow the median and shift the north bound lanes towards the center

The majority of the trees along the outer perimeters of the corridor will remain in place, allowing the existing tree canopy to provide the same amount of shade to the sidepath. The recommended design has the least impact to existing trees, preserves the appearance of the corridor, increases the health and longevity of the majority of the trees, accommodates traffic volumes and incorporates the City's Ped Bike Master Plan. Approximately 85 of the 490 existing trees will need to be removed in order to protect the overall health of the area's tree system. Other City efforts to preserve trees and expand the City's canopy system include the recent acquisition of Cullinan Park that includes thousands upon thousands of new trees and annual tree planting efforts at Memorial Park. Sugar Land's work in this area has contributed to its Tree City USA designation.

The project will be constructed in five phases reconstructing the roadway, drainage and utilities on one half of the roadway at a time while detouring traffic to the remaining half of the boulevard during the construction period. Phases one and two will include constructing Williams Trace from the commercial area south of State Highway 6 through Austin Parkway terminating at Ditch A. Phases three through five will conclude the project with the reconstruction of approximately 500 feet of paving and drainage at the connection to State Highway 6. This segmented phasing approach provides for optimum use of the lane capacity at the intersection of State Highway 6 during the phase one and two construction periods.

As is typical of these projects there will be inconveniences. Lane reductions required for construction result in more traffic and motorists delays. Additionally there will be notices given for temporary water service outages as we are replacing the water mains as well. Residents will be encouraged to sign up for construction notifications on the city's web site for updates regarding lane closures and water outages while construction is ongoing. The schedule for completion of the project is as follows:

- Bid project Fall 2016
- Award contract Fall 2016
- Construction 1st Quarter calendar year 2017 w/15 months duration

For more information contact the City of Sugar Land Engineering Department at 281-275-2780. To sign up for email construction notification alerts go to www.sugarlandtx.gov/notifyme.